CLAIMS

- A tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion obtained by carrying out a tetrafluoroethylene polymerization in an aqueous medium in the presence of a fluorovinyl groupcontaining emulsifier, wherein said tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion contains a particle comprising a tetrafluoroethylene polymer dispersed in said 10 aqueous medium, said fluorovinyl group-containing emulsifier comprises a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (I) represented by the general formula (I): 15 $CF_2 = CF - (CF_2)_a - Y$ (I)wherein a represents an integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, NH₄ or an alkali metal, a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (II) 20 represented by the general formula (II): $CF_2=CF-(CF_2C(CF_3)F)_b-Y$ (II) wherein b represents an integer of 1 to 5 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, NH4 or an alkali metal, 25 a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (III) represented by the general formula (III): $CF_2 = CFO - (CFX)_c - Y$ (III) wherein X represents F or $-CF_3$, c represents an integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM 30 in which M represents H, NH4 or an alkali metal, a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (IV) represented by the general formula (IV):
- wherein X represents F or $-CF_3$, d represents an integer of 1 to 10, e represents an integer of 1 to

 $CF_2 = CFO - (CF_2CFXO)_d - (CF_2)_e - Y$

3 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H, NH_4 or an alkali metal, a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (V) represented by the general formula (V):

- 5 $CH_2=CFCF_2O-(CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_f-CF(CF_3)-Y$ (V) wherein f represents an integer of 0 to 10 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H, NH_4 or an alkali metal, and/or a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (VI)
- represented by the general formula (VI): $CF_2 = CFCF_2O (CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_g CF(CF_3) Y \qquad (VI)$ wherein g represents an integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H, NH₄ or an alkali metal,
- 15 said tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion has a fluorine-containing surfactant content of not higher than 1000 ppm by mass.
- 2. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the tetrafluoroethylene polymer has a tetrafluoroethylene unit content exceeding 40 mole percent.
- 25 3. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the tetrafluoroethylene polymer is a perfluoro-based polymer.
- 4. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the tetrafluoroethylene polymerization is carried out in the absence of any non-byproduct fluorine-containing surfactant.

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- 5. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein the fluorovinyl group-containing emulsifier comprises the fluorovinyl group-containing compound (I), the fluorovinyl group-containing compound (III), the fluorovinyl group-containing compound (IV) and/or the fluorovinyl group-containing compound (V).
- 10 6. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 5, wherein the fluorovinyl group-containing emulsifier comprises a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (i) represented by the general formula (i):
- 15 $CF_2=CF-(O)_h-(CF_2CF(CF_3)O)_i-(CF_2)_j-Y$ (i) wherein h represents an integer of 0 or 1, i represents an integer of 0 to 2, j represents an integer of 1 to 3 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H, NH_4 or an alkali metal, and/or
- 20 a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (ii)
 represented by the general formula (ii):
 CH₂=CFCF₂O-(CF(CF₃)CF₂O)_k-CF(CF₃)-Y (ii)
 wherein k represents an integer of 0 to 3 and Y
 represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H,
 25 NH₄ or an alkali metal.
- 7. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, which has a solid matter concentration of 5 to 70% by mass.
 - 8. The tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, wherein the particle comprising the
- 35 tetrafluoroethylene polymer has an average primary

particle diameter of 50 to 500 nm.

- 9. A tetrafluoroethylene polymer powder which is obtained by coagulating the tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8.
 - 10. A tetrafluoroethylene polymer molding which is obtained by molding/processing using the
- tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 or the tetrafluoroethylene polymer powder according to Claim 9.
- 15 11. A method of producing a tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion by carrying out a tetrafluoroethylene polymerization in an aqueous medium in the presence of a fluorovinyl groupcontaining emulsifier,
- wherein said tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion contains a particle comprising a tetrafluoroethylene polymer dispersed in said aqueous medium and has a fluorine-containing surfactant content of not higher than 1000 ppm by
- said fluorovinyl group-containing emulsifier is added in an amount of 0.00001 to 2% by mass relative to said aqueous medium, and said fluorovinyl group-containing emulsifier
- comprises a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (I) represented by the general formula (I): $CF_2 = CF (CF_2)_a Y \qquad \qquad (I)$

wherein a represents an integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H,

35 NH₄ or an alkali metal,

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mass,

- a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (II) represented by the general formula (II): $CF_2=CF-(CF_2C(CF_3)F)_b-Y$ (II) wherein b represents an integer of 1 to 5 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, NH₄ or an alkali metal, a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (III) represented by the general formula (III): $CF_2 = CFO - (CFX)_C - Y$ (III) wherein X represents F or $-CF_3$, c represents an 10 integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, NH_4 or an alkali metal, a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (IV) represented by the general formula (IV): 15 $CF_2=CFO-(CF_2CFXO)_d-(CF_2)_e-Y$ wherein X represents F or $-CF_3$, d represents an integer of 1 to 10, e represents an integer of 1 to 3 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, NH4 or an alkali metal, 20 a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (V) represented by the general formula (V): $CH_2 = CFCF_2O - (CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_f - CF(CF_3) - Y$ (V) wherein f represents an integer of 0 to 10 and Y represents -SO₃M or -COOM in which M represents H, 25 NH₄ or an alkali metal, and/or a fluorovinyl group-containing compound (VI) represented by the general formula (VI): $CF_2 = CFCF_2O - (CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_q - CF(CF_3) - Y$
- 12. The method of producing a tetrafluoroethylene polymer aqueous dispersion according to Claim 11,35 wherein the addition of the fluorovinyl group-

NH4 or an alkali metal.

wherein g represents an integer of 1 to 10 and Y represents $-SO_3M$ or -COOM in which M represents H,

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containing emulsifier is carried out in the manner of a supplementary addition with the progress of a tetrafluoroethylene polymerization reaction.